

period and within historic times are summarised, and apart from the intrinsic interest of the subject, the address is an admirable illustration of the methods of descriptive geography.

DR. A. LORENZEN contributes two articles to *Die Natur* on the Danish Expedition to East Greenland in 1898-1899. The expedition was successful in closely following the plan of work with which it set out. Its chief results consist of mapping the coast of Greenland from lat. 65° 34' N. to 67° 22' N., and sketching it as far as 68° N.; making botanical, zoological and geological collections; ethnographic observations; observations of the ice north of the Angmagalik district; meteorological and other observations in winter quarters.

OUR German contemporary, *Naturwissenschaftliche Wochenschrift* for August 19 and September 2 contains a full account of the discovery of the remains of *Grypotherium listai* in Ultima Esperanza cavern, Patagonia.

Perhaps the most interesting article in the September number of the *Irish Naturalist* is an account, by Mr. R. Warren, of a visit to Loch Erne in search of the Sandwich tern, which has hitherto been known to breed in Ireland only in a single locality in county Mayo.

THE report of the expeditions organised by the British Astronomical Association to observe the total solar eclipse of May 28, 1900, will be contained in a volume shortly to be issued from the office of *Knowledge*. The work will be edited by Mr. E. Walter Maunder, and will contain many photographs of the various stages of the eclipse.

AMONG the scientific instrument makers who exhibited in the British Section at the Paris Exhibition, the Grand Prix was awarded to four firms, namely:—Class 15 (*Instruments de Précision*), the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co., Ltd., Cambridge, and Messrs. Ross, Ltd., London. Class 16 (*Médecine et Chirurgie*), Messrs. Down Bros., London. Class 27 (*Applications diverses de l'Électricité*), Mr. James White, Glasgow. Mr. W. Duddell received a gold medal (Class 27) for the oscillograph exhibited by the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company, and Mr. Wayne, the inventor of both the Wayne and Simplex Steam-engine Indicators, and now engaged at the Cambridge works, received a silver medal. A silver medal was also awarded in Class 16 to the company itself. Two gold and two silver medals were awarded to Mr. J. J. Hicks, and one to Messrs. Crompton and Co., Messrs. Negretti and Zambra, and Messrs. Watson and Sons; and silver medals were also awarded to Mr. A. Higgins, Mr. E. Wellings, Mr. W. Sims and Mr. W. Barton of Mr. Hicks' firm.

THE additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens during the past week include a Lion (*Felis leo*) from Uganda, presented by Captain Delme Radcliff; a Macaque Monkey (*Macacus cynomolgus*) from India, presented by Miss K. Bishop; a Ring-tailed Coati (*Nasua rufa*) from South America, presented by Mr. G. Percy Ashmore; two Cunning Bassaris (*Bassaris astuta*) from Mexico, presented by Miss Franklin; two Chilian Sea Eagles (*Geranoaëtus melanolæucus*) from South America, presented by Mr. Tom Simonds; a Puma (*Felis concolor*) from the Argentine Republic, presented by Mr. Maurice F. Dennis; a Nilotic Crocodile (*Crocodilus niloticus*) from Omdurman, presented by Major H. B. Weatherall; two Tenrecs (*Centetes ecaudatus*) from Madagascar, a Cunning Bassaris (*Bassaris astuta*) from Mexico, three Cardinal Eclectus (*Eclectus cardinalis*) from Moluccas, deposited; two Purple Herons (*Ardea purpurea*), two Common Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo*), three Common Spoonbills (*Platalea leucorodia*), European, purchased.

OUR ASTRONOMICAL COLUMN

EPHEMERIS FOR OBSERVATIONS OF EROS.—The following is continued from the new data given by E. Millosevich in the *Astronomische Nachrichten* (Band 153, No. 3660):—

Ephemeris for 12h. Berlin Mean Time.

| 1900. | R.A. | | | Decl. |
|----------|------|-------|-------|---------------|
| | h. | m. | s. | |
| Sept. 13 | 2 | 34 | 19.43 | +38° 7' 24.2" |
| 14 | 35 | 11.87 | ... | 38 30 7.3 |
| 15 | 36 | 2.36 | ... | 38 52 52.9 |
| 16 | 36 | 50.83 | ... | 39 15 40.7 |
| 17 | 37 | 37.20 | ... | 39 38 30.3 |
| 18 | 38 | 21.38 | ... | 40 1 21.4 |
| 19 | 39 | 3.30 | ... | 40 24 13.9 |
| 20 | 2 | 39 | 42.89 | +40 47 7.2 |

The following elements for two epochs some two years apart are also given in the same periodical:—

| I. Epoch 1898 August 2.5 Berlin. | | II. Epoch 1900 October 31.5 Berlin. | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|--|----------|
| M = 205 | 21 41.83 | M = 304 | 24 40.34 |
| π = 121 | 10 51.40 | π = 121 | 9 47.82 |
| Ω = 303 | 31 56.17 | Ω = 303 | 30 50.02 |
| i = 10 | 49 35.35 | i = 10 | 49 38.97 |
| φ = 12 | 52 14.44 | φ = 12 | 52 40.61 |
| μ = 2015 | .26908 | μ = 2015 | .23324 |
| log a = 0.1637824 | | log a = 0.1637875 | |

THE DAYLIGHT METEOR OF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2.

JUST before sunset on September 2 a magnificent meteor was observed in the north of England and Scotland. A large number of descriptions of the object have appeared in the newspapers, and it appears that notwithstanding broad daylight the spectacle was a very brilliant one.

At St. Anne's, Lancashire, the meteor fell in a northerly direction, and left a column of white smoke, which remained visible ten minutes. At Hunt's Cross the time was noted as 6h. 52m., and the object is said to have fallen near Halewood, leaving a long trail of white dust for several minutes. As seen from Birkenhead the meteor appeared at 6h. 54m. in the N.E., and looked like a descending rocket. Its path was nearly vertical, and it left a "dust trail" for nearly six minutes. At Wetherby, Yorks, the smoke-like cloud left by the nucleus remained visible until 7h. 30m. At Overton, Ellesmere, the object is said to have apparently fallen on a field on the left bank of the Dee, about a mile from Bangor Iscoed. At Ulverstone it passed over Morecambe Bay, in a southerly direction towards Blackpool. At Penton, Cumberland, the time was noted as 6h. 54m., and the direction was due south. It remained visible two seconds, and was falling towards the earth.

At Keswick, Mr. Lawson Dykes saw the fireball at 6h. 55m., and says it fell through an arc of about ten degrees, the altitude of appearance being 35° and disappearance 25°. It was pear-shaped and of immense size, with a distinct tail. The line of flight was almost due N. to S. At Warkton, Northamptonshire, Dr. Herbert Spencer noted the time as 6h. 55m., and says the track of the meteorite was afterwards marked by a narrow white streak, which persisted for more than five minutes.

At and near Edinburgh the fireball was witnessed by many persons. One observer says that at 6h. 55m. there was a sudden flash, and what appeared to be a streak of molten silver followed by a train of sparks whizzed past, apparently falling into a large field of turnips on his right hand. Its direction was due S.E. At Inveresk the meteor appeared to be in the direction of Dalkeith. It resembled a large ball of fire with a tail, and seemed to fall to the earth. At Earlswood, nine miles S.S.E. of Birmingham, the time was noted as 6h. 55m., and the end point of the flight occurred in altitude 20° N. and was directed from N.N.E. At Blackwall, Alfreton, an observer noted the time as 6h. 53m., and says the meteor left a trace in the sky of a sinuous form and in colour a silver-gray. The trace remained distinctly visible in the sky for thirty minutes. Its direction was N.W. At West Kirby, Birkenhead, the meteor was seen to fall into a wood on the east side of the hill there, and apparently so close that the observer thought it would possibly set fire to the trees.